

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, June 28, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On May 25, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received an appeal from Representative Lloyd Smucker of a fine imposed pursuant to House Resolution 73. The appeal was received after the Committee adopted its written rules.

A majority of the Committee did not agree to the appeal.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,
Chairman.
JACKIE WALORSKI,
Ranking Member.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1504

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASE) at 3 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY ACT OF 2021

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 391) to authorize a comprehensive, strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to strengthen global health security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 391

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Global Health Security Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In December 2009, President Obama released the National Strategy for Countering Biological Threats, which listed as one of seven objectives "Promote global health security: Increase the availability of and access to knowledge and products of the life sciences that can help reduce the impact from outbreaks of infectious disease whether of natural, accidental, or deliberate origin".

(2) In February 2014, the United States and nearly 30 other nations launched the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSa) to address several high-priority, global infectious disease threats. The GHSa is a multi-faceted, multi-country initiative intended to accelerate partner countries' measurable capabilities to achieve specific targets to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats, whether naturally occurring, deliberate, or accidental.

(3) In 2015, the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include specific reference to the importance of global health security as part of SDG 3 "ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages" as follows: "strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks".

(4) On November 4, 2016, President Obama signed Executive Order No. 13747, "Advancing the Global Health Security Agenda to Achieve a World Safe and Secure from Infectious Disease Threats".

(5) In October 2017 at the GHSa Ministerial Meeting in Uganda, the United States and more than 40 GHSa member countries supported the "Kampala Declaration" to extend the GHSa for an additional 5 years to 2024.

(6) In December 2017, President Trump released the National Security Strategy, which includes the priority action: "Detect and contain bio-threats at their source: We will work with other countries to detect and mitigate outbreaks early to prevent the spread of disease. We will encourage other countries to invest in basic health care systems and to strengthen global health security across the intersection of human and animal health to prevent infectious disease outbreaks".

(7) In September 2018, President Trump released the National Biodefense Strategy, which includes objectives to "strengthen global health security capacities to prevent local bioincidents from becoming epidemics", and "strengthen international preparedness to support international response and recovery capabilities".

(8) In January 2021, President Biden issued Executive Order 13987 (86 Fed. Reg. 7019; relating to Organizing and Mobilizing the United States Government to Provide a Unified and Effective Response to Combat COVID-19 and to Provide United States Leadership on Global Health and Security), as well as National Security Memorandum on United States Global Leadership to Strengthen the International COVID-19 Response and to Advance Global Health Security and Biological Preparedness, which include objectives to strengthen and reform the World Health Organization, increase United States leadership in the global response to COVID-19, and to finance and advance global health security and pandemic preparedness.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to—

(1) promote and invest in global health security and pandemic preparedness as a core national security interest;

(2) advance the aims of the Global Health Security Agenda;

(3) collaborate with other countries to detect and mitigate outbreaks early to prevent the spread of disease;

(4) encourage and support other countries to advance pandemic preparedness by investing in basic resilient and sustainable health care systems; and

(5) strengthen global health security across the intersection of human and animal health to prepare for and prevent infectious disease outbreaks and combat the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance.

SEC. 4. GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY AGENDA INTERAGENCY REVIEW COUNCIL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish a Global Health Security Agenda Interagency Review 23 Council (in this section referred to as the "Council") to 24 perform the general responsibilities described in sub-section (c) and the specific roles and responsibilities described in subsection (e).

(b) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet not less than four times per year to advance its mission and fulfill its responsibilities.

(c) GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Council shall be responsible for the following activities:

(1) Provide policy-level recommendations to participating agencies on Global Health Security Agenda (GHSa) goals, objectives, and implementation, and other international efforts to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response.

(2) Facilitate interagency, multi-sectoral engagement to carry out GHSa implementation.

(3) Provide a forum for raising and working to resolve interagency disagreements concerning the GHSa, and other international efforts to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response.

(4)(A) Review the progress toward and work to resolve challenges in achieving United States commitments under the GHSa, including commitments to assist other countries in achieving the GUSA targets.

(B) The Council shall consider, among other issues, the following:

(i) The status of United States financial commitments to the GHSa in the context of commitments by other donors, and the contributions of partner countries to achieve the GHSa targets.

(ii) The progress toward the milestones outlined in GHSa national plans for those countries where the United States Government has committed to assist in implementing the GHSa and in annual work-plans outlining agency priorities for implementing the GHSa.

(iii) The external evaluations of United States and partner country capabilities to address infectious disease threats, including the ability to achieve the targets outlined within the WHO Joint External Evaluation tool, as well as gaps identified by such external evaluations.

(d) PARTICIPATION.—The Council shall be headed by the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, in coordination with the heads of relevant Federal agencies. The Council shall consist of representatives from the following agencies:

(1) The Department of State.
(2) The Department of Defense.
(3) The Department of Justice.
(4) The Department of Agriculture.
(5) The Department of Health and Human Services.

(6) The Department of the Treasury.
(7) The Department of Labor.
(8) The Department of Homeland Security.
(9) The Office of Management and Budget.
(10) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(11) The United States Agency for International Development.

(12) The Environmental Protection Agency.

(13) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(14) The Office of Science and Technology Policy.

(15) The National Institutes of Health.

(16) The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

(17) Such other agencies as the Council determines to be appropriate.

(e) SPECIFIC ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—